

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or a salt thereof.

2. (Withdrawn) A protein consisting of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or a salt thereof.

3. (Withdrawn) A partial peptide of the protein according to claim 1, or a salt thereof.

4. (Currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising ~~a the~~ polynucleotide ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO:16, or a polynucleotide having at least ~~80~~95% homology to the polynucleotide ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO:16.

5. (Original) The polynucleotide according to claim 4, which is a DNA.

6. (Currently amended) ~~The polynucleotide according to claim 5, wherein the~~ An isolated polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide ~~contains the base sequence represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO: 16, wherein the isolated polynucleotide is a DNA.

7. (Previously presented) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of the base sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 16.

8. (Previously presented) An isolated recombinant vector comprising the polynucleotide according to claim 4.

9. (Previously presented) An isolated transformant transformed by the recombinant vector according to claim 8.

10. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing the protein according to claim 1, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof, which comprises culturing the transformant according to claim 9, and producing/accumulating the protein according to claim 1 or its partial peptide.

11. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical comprising the protein according to claim 1, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

12. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polynucleotide according to claim 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. (Original) A diagnostic agent comprising the polynucleotide according to claim 4.

14. (Withdrawn) An antibody to the protein according to claim 1, the partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

15. – 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Withdrawn) A method of screening a compound or its salt inhibiting the activity of the protein according to claim 1, which comprises using the protein according to claim 1, the partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

22. – 23. (Cancelled)

24. (Withdrawn) A method of screening a compound or its salt inhibiting the expression of a gene for the protein according to claim 1, which comprises using the polynucleotide according to claim 4.

25. (Previously presented) A kit for screening a compound or its salt inhibiting the expression of a gene, the kit comprising the polynucleotide according to claim 4.

26. - 27. (Cancelled)

28. (Withdrawn) An antisense polynucleotide comprising the entire or part of a base sequence complementary or substantially complementary to a base sequence of a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 10, or a partial peptide thereof.

29. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical comprising the antisense polynucleotide according to claim 28.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Withdrawn) An antibody to a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 10, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

32. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical comprising the antibody according to claim 31.

33. – 36. (Cancelled)

37. (Withdrawn) A prophylactic/therapeutic agent for a cancer, comprising a compound or its salt inhibiting the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented

by SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

38. (Withdrawn) A prophylactic/therapeutic agent for a cancer, comprising a compound or its salt inhibiting the expression of a gene for a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

39. (Withdrawn) A method of screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for a cancer, which comprises using a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

40. (Withdrawn) A kit for screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for a cancer, comprising a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Withdrawn) A method of screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for a cancer, which comprises using a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or a partial peptide thereof.

43. (Currently amended) A kit for screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for a cancer, comprising an isolated polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide of ~~represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:16, or a polynucleotide having at least ~~80~~95% homology to the polynucleotide ~~represented by~~of SEQ ID NO:16.

44. – 45. (Cancelled)

46. (Withdrawn) A method of screening an apoptosis promoter, which comprises using a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

47. (Withdrawn) A method of screening an apoptosis promoter, which comprises using a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 25 or SEQ ID NO: 27, or a partial peptide thereof.

48. – 50. (Cancelled)